

REMARKS

Applicants amend claims 11 and 13, and claims 1-20 are pending in this application. Applicants initially note with appreciation that the Examiner has allowed claims 18-20 and identified allowable subject matter in claims 2-10 and 12-16.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §112

The Examiner rejects claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctively claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner states that there is insufficient antecedent basis for “seat pan portion” in the claim. In response, Applicants amend claim 11 to introduce a seat pan portion in a similar manner to claim 17, as advised by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to remove the rejection of claim 11.

Additionally, claim 13 has been amended to correct its dependency from claim 2 to claim 12.

Double Patenting

The Examiner provisionally rejects claims 1, 11, and 17 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 8, and 16, respectively, of commonly owned U.S. Patent No. 6,390,220. In response, Applicants file a terminal disclaimer with this response in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.321. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to remove the provisional double patenting rejection.

As a result of the terminal disclaimer, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance and request the allowance of claims 1-20.

In a related matter, although the Examiner identifies that the drawings submitted on July 11, 2001 are acceptable, Applicants submit formal drawings. No new matter has been added to the drawings. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to enter the formal drawings.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney should the Examiner determine that such action would facilitate the prosecution and allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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